

# *Sketch*

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## The Secret of Water

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# THE SECRET OF WATER

WRITTEN BY BRIAN GOOD

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The secret of air is that it gives life  
to any person or being, no matter  
who or what they are: saints and  
sinners alike enjoy its presence.

The secret of water is that it kills you –  
thirty millimeters of water  
can steal your breath away as you  
lie face down on the floor. Take notice

of the secret I have given you, I will  
plead with you to not let me go.  
I stared at the pictures of tropical  
blue fish and brilliant coral. I could not

feel their scales or explore their  
nooks and crannies and rooms  
and kingdoms. I wanted to hold them  
in my hands, to feel them living

in their cerulean world of life and death.  
I wanted to feel the sharp intake of  
breath as I watch their gills open and  
close. Such a simple movement but

one that is their own secret, a  
secret that I will never discover.  
I'm not allowed to be on the ocean.  
I will always find a way to fall in.

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Brian Good is a sophomore in political science and English.  
He plans to pursue an MFA in creative writing after graduating from  
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